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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: To Be Assigned  
Applicant: Shintaro Izumi, et al.  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: METHOD OF PRODUCING MEMBRANE-ELECTRODE  
ASSEMBLY FOR FUEL CELL  
TC/A.U.: To Be Assigned  
Examiner: To Be Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of the references listed on the 1449 form is enclosed

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese references are not in the English language:

- 1) WO 02/05371
- 2) WO 02/058178
- 3) 2002-184425
- 4) 2002-500422
- 5) 2001-236971
- 6) WO 02/05372
- 7) 2003-68320

MTS-3481US

PATENT

References 1) to 3) and 5) to 7) include an English language Abstract.

Reference 4) has a counterpart English language patent attached.

References 1) to 7) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. A copy of this search report, which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office, is transmitted herewith. Further, enclosed is an English translation of the search report.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424  
Attorney for Applicants

DNC/dmw

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449  
(8) References

Dated: January 28, 2005

P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482  
(610) 407-0700

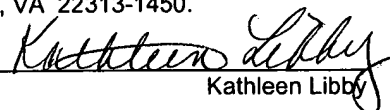
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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Kathleen Libby

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Shintaro IZUMI, et al.
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	MTS-3481US

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-6,291,091 (corresponds to JP 2002- 500422)	09/18/2001	BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS INC.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO 02/05371 (with English Abstract)	01/17/2002	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		WO 02/058178 (with English Abstract)	07/25/2002	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2002-184425 A (with English Abstract)	06/28/2002	OMG AG & CO KG		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2002-500422 A (corresponds to US 6,291,091)	01/08/2002	BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS INC		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2001-236971 (with English Abstract)	08/31/2001	FUJI ELECTRIC CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		WO 02/05372 (with English Abstract)	01/17/2002	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-068320 A (with English Abstract)	03/07/2003	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO LTD		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

<sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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10/523324

DT12 c'd PCT/PTO 28 JAN 2005

(AW 08/03)

Substitute for Form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 2 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Shintaro IZUMI, et al.
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	MTS-3481US

**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		International Search Report for PCT/JP03/09511, dated November 25, 2003.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

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**SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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